

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY:

Heila Cogan

DATE:

November 13, 2001

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent Application of
Nanning J. Arfsten, *et al.*



: Group Art Unit: 1775

Appln. No.: 09/437,948

: Examiner: J. McNeil

Conf. No.: 8672

Filed: November 10, 1999

For: NIOBIUM OXIDE-BASED LAYERS
FOR THIN FILM OPTICAL COATINGS
AND PROCESSES FOR PRODUCING
THE SAME

: Attorney Docket
No. 275-3

RECEIVED
JAN 14 2002
TC 1700

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated July 16, 2001 (Paper No. 10), in the above-identified application. This response is being timely filed in view of the simultaneous filing of Petition for Extension of Time for one (1) month to and including November 16, 2001.

Please amend the above-identified application, without prejudice, as follows:

In the claims:

✓
Please cancel claims 3 and 21 without prejudice.

✓
Please add claims 22 and 23 as follows.

Subject
cancel
71
- 82. (New) A coated substrate having a thin film optical coating, the coating having a layer comprising sol-gel derived niobium oxide, wherein the layer is capable of providing an index of refraction of at least about 1.90 and the layer comprising niobium oxide further comprises